

Reptiles and Batrachians were sent to the British Museum by Dr. Emin Pasha :—

South Shore of Victoria Nyanza.—*Nucras tessellata*, Smith ; *Eremias Spekii*, Gthr. ; *Lygosoma modestum*, Gthr. (a single specimen, with 24 scales round the body and the nasal completely divided into two) ; *Dromophis angolensis*, Bocage ; *Psammophis biseriatus*, Ptrs. ; *Thelotornis Kirtlandii*, Hall. v. *Ugogo.*—*Megalixalus Fornasinii*, Bianconi.

VII.—*On a new Genus and some new Species of Shells from Lake Tanganyika.* By EDGAR A. SMITH.

MR. E. COODE HORE recently presented to the British Museum a few Tanganyikan shells preserved in spirit and containing the animals. Among them are two specimens of *Paramelania nassa*, var. *grandis* *.

This variety I now propose as the type of a new genus, which may be designated *Nassopsis*, distinguished from *Paramelania* † (henceforth reserved for *P. Damonii* and *P. crassigranulata*) partly on account of certain differences in the shell, but more especially as the operculum is of an entirely different type.

In *Paramelania* the aperture of the shell does not exhibit the sinuation or subtruncation of the columella which is so conspicuous in typical *Nassopsis*, and the anterior extremity of the last whorl has a slightly produced appearance ; the outer lip also is more thickened. The operculum in *Paramelania* is large, ovate, paucispiral at the nucleus, situated a little within the left margin and about equidistant from the ends, and subsequently displays a concentric style of growth. That of *Nassopsis* is small and somewhat paucispiral at the *almost terminal* nucleus.

Nassopsis nassa, var. *grandis*.

Animal with the foot small, broader in front than behind, with the anterior margin double ; sides of the foot and head blackish ; proboscis compressed, broad and truncate at the end ; tentacles also black, except at the tips, which are pale, very short, conical, swollen at the base on the outer side, probably denoting the position of the eyes ; free edge of the mantle dark-coloured and subdenticulate.

* Proc. Zool. Soc. 1881, p. 561, pl. xxxiv. fig. 26 a.

† L. c. p. 559 (= *Bourguignatia*, Giraud).

Radula with teeth in seven series (3. 1. 3), central smallest; recurved edge notched at each side, with a conspicuous cutting-edge; inner or first lateral obliquely subquadrate, much produced at the outer base into a rostrate extremity, with three denticles on the recurved cutting-edge; second lateral larger than the rest, oblique, incurved, margin tricuspidate; outer or third lateral narrow, more slender at the base than above, curved over towards the adjacent tooth, and with five or six unequal denticles on the edge.

Operculum rich brown, horny, narrow, striated externally with lines of growth from the paucispiral nucleus, which is nearly terminal; lower surface with a broad glossy band or thickening along the outer or right margin, occupying about half the surface; placed transversely across the dorsal part of the foot. Length (from a semiadult shell 20 millim. long) 7 millim., diameter $3\frac{1}{2}$.

Mr. Gwatkin, who has had much experience, kindly examined the radula of this genus, and informs me that he is inclined to believe that *Nassopsis* will find its nearest allies in the Cerithiidae, and not amongst the Littorinoids as I had suggested. It also seems to me to bear considerable resemblance to *Planaxis*.

In general construction the operculum is very like that of many species of *Melania*, but the peculiar solidity of the shell and the slight notch at the base of the columella, besides certain differences in the radula, may be sufficient to separate this and allied species as a distinct group.

Syrnopsis (Anceya) Giraudi, var.

A single specimen, kindly submitted to me for examination by Mr. S. I. Da Costa, agrees in most respects with M. Bourguignat's description. It differs, however, in colour, being of a red tint with a white zone around the middle of the whorls. It does not exhibit the palatal liræ in the aperture, but these may be too far within to be visible. In adult specimens of *Syrnopsis lacustris* the liræ cannot be seen until the lip is broken away to some extent. As far as I can discover the only distinction separating *Anceya* from *Syrnopsis* is one of sculpture. The type of *Syrnopsis* has smooth whorls, whereas that of *Anceya* is *longitudinally* costate. If sculpture be admitted as a generic character there is no reason why *Syrnopsis carinifera* should not be regarded as the type of a third genus characterized by *spiral* ridges. The general form of the aperture is the same in all three forms; it is slightly oblique and has an upper and basal broad sinus or slight

canaliculation; the outer lip is faintly effuse and prominent, and the columellar folds are similar and in the same position in each.

Turbonilla? terebriformis.

Testa subulata, nitida, albo-grisea, superne pallide lilacea, oblique costata et striata; anfractus circiter 18, lente accrescentes, apicales — ?, sequentes 3–4 convexi, longitudinaliter tenuiter striati, circa medium biangulati, cæteri convexi (superioribus quam inferioribus convexioribus, fortissime costatis), costis obliquis, subacutis, distantibus, instructi, lineis incrementi tenuissimis oblique flexuosis striati; anfr. ultimus ad peripheriam rotunde subangulatus, costis inferne obsolete; apertura longit. totius $\frac{1}{3}$ adæquans; columella rectiuscula, superne obsolete uniplicata.

Longit. 12 millim., diam. $2\frac{2}{3}$.

The costæ (about eight in number) on the upper whorls are stronger and further apart than on the lower ones, and are more convex in outline; on the last volution they number about twelve or thirteen. The aperture is somewhat broken away anteriorly, so that the generic position of this interesting species is not quite certain. The texture and costation somewhat recall the appearance of some species of *Terebra*.

Streptostele Horei.

Testa parva, elongata, anguste rimata, cerca; anfractus $7\frac{1}{2}$, apicales læves, cæteri convexiusculi, sutura profunda leviter obliqua sejuncti, costellis confertis, erectis, superne ad suturam denticulatis instructi, inter costellas nitidi; apertura medioeris, longitudinis totius $\frac{1}{4}$ subæquans; perist. incrassatum, album, anguste reflexum, margine externo prope suturam intus sinuato, columellari dilatato, rimam semiobtegente; columella indistincte contorta; paries anfr. ultimi prope extremitatem labri tuberculis duobis parvis munitus.

Longit. $6\frac{1}{2}$ millim., diam. 2; apertura $1\frac{1}{2}$ longa et lata.

This species is well distinguished by the fine longitudinal riblets, which at the upper extremities give a finely denticulate appearance to the deep suture. The single specimen under examination exhibits two denticles at the upper part of the aperture upon the wall of the body-whorl—one near the upper end of the upper lip, the other near it but further within the mouth. The labrum is conspicuously sinuated above near the suture and has a tubercular thickening within below the sinus.

Streptostele simplex.

Testa subulata, tennis, imperforata, cereo-alba : anfractus 9, apicales læves, cæteri convexiusculi, sutura obliqua profunda discreti, longitudinaliter confertim striati ; apex obtusus, globosus ; apertura parva, longit. totius $\frac{1}{4}$ vix æquans, subquadrata ; perist. haud incrassatum, antice leviter expansum ; columella subrecta, reflexa. Longit. $8\frac{1}{2}$ millim., diam. 2 ; apertura 2 longa.

This species has rather convex whorls, is finely striated, and has a deepish suture. The outer lip is scarcely thickened and does not exhibit the sinus at the upper part which is characteristic of the genus. In form and general appearance, however, it agrees very well with the type of the group, *S. fastigiata*, Morelet. It also bears some resemblance to *S. Buchholzi* of Martens, from the Cameroons, but is considerably smaller, and has shorter and rather more convex whorls.

VIII.—Notes on the Genus *Dyschorista*, Led., a small Group of Moths allied to *Orthosia*. By A. G. BUTLER.

THE genus *Dyschorista* was founded for the reception of two European species, *D. suspecta*, Hübn., and *D. ypsilon* = *fissipuncta*, Hew. (see Lederer, Noct. p. 143, gen. 82).

Accepting *D. suspecta* as type of the genus, it will be necessary to include the bulk of the forms referred by M. Guénée to his previously characterized genus *Orthodes*.

Orthodes, Guénée, was described in the first volume of the 'Noctuélites,' p. 371, no type being indicated ; but Guénée selected two of the species, *O. t-nigrum* and *O. curvirena* (both Brazilian), for illustration. In the description of the species of his second group Guénée pointed out that *O. curvirena* differed structurally from the remainder of the genus:—"L'une d'elles (*Curvirena*) a les palpes particulièrement ascendants et allongés." He thus restricted the identification of his type to *O. t-nigrum*, the first species of his first group.

In the Museum collection we have an example of *O. t-nigrum*, and, as may be seen from the figure in the 'Noctuélites,' it has no connexion whatever with the remainder of the species, but is in fact far more closely allied to *Leucania* ; fortunately the remaining species correspond with *D. suspecta* in size, pattern, coloration, the ascending palpi, simple antennæ, and heavily tufted anal decorations of the male.

In his 'Check-list of North-American Moths' for 1882 Grote rightly reduced the number of M. Guénée's North-American species, *Orthodes nimia* and *candens* being sunk as